



# **PRESS RELEASE**

## **House National Security Committee**

### **Floyd D. Spence, Chairman**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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#### **STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN FLOYD SPENCE (R-SC)**

##### **ON SECRETARY COHEN'S RELEASE OF DOD REFORM TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS**

*Monday, November 10, 1997*

I want to commend Secretary Cohen for stepping forward and acknowledging that Pentagon reform is long overdue.

For several years, many of us in Congress have argued that the combined effect of declining defense budgets and growing military commitments demand a more efficient Pentagon and thus, aggressive reform. The House National Security Committee has repeatedly attempted to pass legislation that forced meaningful Pentagon reforms. Although we have had some modest success, it has rarely been with the cooperation of the Department of Defense.

Therefore, today's announcement is important beyond the substance if it means that the department is changing its tune and embracing the need for significant reform. Of course, the true test of these reform proposals will obviously come with implementation, and I stand ready and committed to helping the Secretary any way that I can.

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